



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
2300 E STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20372-5300

IN REPLY REFER TO
4200
Ser 04/02025

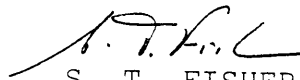
JUL 27 1998

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Subj: GOVERNMENT PURCHASE CARD USE

Ref: (a) OUSD(A&T) memo of 20 Mar 97
(b) OUSD(A&T) memo of 26 Sep 97

1. Reference (a) dictates that all contract actions under \$2,500 be executed with the Government Purchase Card; however, a flag officer may waive this requirement if the merchant does not accept the card or if the nature of the supply or service to be purchased requires a purchase order. Reference (b) lowered the approval level of these requests to the senior local commander or director.
2. Some NAVSUP PMR detachments are interpreting reference (b) to require the senior local commander or director to receive flag officer delegation in order to execute this waiver authority. While some BUMED activities have requested individual delegation, other senior local commanders have taken reference (b) at face value and executed waivers in good faith.
3. In order to alleviate further confusion, blanket delegation to issue waivers is given to senior local commanders of BUMED activities with at least micro-purchase authority. This authority may not be delegated below the Commanding Officer or Officer in Charge. BUMED enthusiastically endorses maximum use of the Government Purchase Card. Waivers should be issued sparingly and only in the specific circumstances cited in the references.
4. Should you have any questions, my point of contact is Mr. Bert Hovermale who may be reached at (301) 619-3015 or DSN 343-3015.


S. T. FISHER
Deputy